

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 08998 251522Z

41

ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 NEA-09 ISO-00 USIA-12 /032 W

----- 012312

R 251151Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6166

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

UNCLAS LAGOS 08998

FROM ESCORT LINCH

E.O. 11652 : NA

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES JUBILEE SINGERS

1. SEPTEMBER 20 SINGERS TRAVELED FOUR HOURS BY BUS TO IBADAN AND PERFORMED THAT EVENING IN ASSEMBLY HALL AT UNIVERSITY. SEPTEMBER 21 TOOK ELEVEN-HOUR HARD BUST TRIP TO ENUGU AND PERFORMED THERE AT CITY HALL ON EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 22. THESE TWO CONCERTS CONSIDERED BY POST HIGHLY IMPORTANT SINCE IN AREAS RARELY VISITED BY U.S. CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS. IN ENUGU SINGERS WERE FIRST SUCH GROUP PERFORM THERE SINCE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR. ATTENDANCE AT BOTH EXCEEDED POST'S EXPECTATIONS AND BOTH HALLS FILLED TO CAPACITY WITH MANY WHO COULDN'T GET IN REMAINING OUTSIDE WHERE THEY COULD HEAR (AND SEE THROUGH GLASS DOORS LINING SIDES OF THE HALLS) AND ENJOY. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE IN HALLS IS OVER 600 IN IBADAN AND NEARLY 500 IN ENUGU.

2. BOTH AUDIENCES INCLUDED LOCAL LEADERS OF GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS AND EDUCATION. IN ENUGU 50 MEMBERS OF LOCAL NBC CHOIR ATTENDED IN BLOCK AND AFTER UBILIEE SINGERS CONCLUDED, CAME TO STAGE AND SANG FOR THE VISITORS. JUBILEE SINGERS THEN JOINED THEM ON STAGE AND TOGETHER THEY SANG CHORUS FROM MESSIAH. EVERYONE WAS MOVED. BOTH CONCERTS VERY SUCCESSFUL.

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 08998 251522Z

3. BECAUSE GOOD POSSIBILITY DELAY IN DEPARTURE SECOND FLIGHT
BACK TO LAGOS ON 24TH, AS COMPROMISE GROUP DID NEARLY HALF
TRIP BY BUS ON 24RD AND REMAINDER 24TH; ARRIVING LAGOS AT
2 P.M. THIS NOT TOO TIRING ON GROUP AND INSURED ENTIRE GROUP'S
PRESENCE FOR MAIN LAGOS CONCERT TUESDAY AND ALSO FOR DEPARTURE
FOR CAIRO WEDNESDAY.
REINHARDT

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